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**Senator Bettencourt lauds Governor Abbott's Appointment
of Donna Bahorich as State Board of Education Chair**

Austin – Senator Paul Bettencourt strongly supports Senate District 7 longtime resident & District 6 State Board of Education (SBOE) Member Donna Bahorich’s appointment to the Chair by Governor Abbott today.

“I am proud to support the Governor’s nomination of Donna Bahorich as the Chair of the State Board of Education. She has been a tireless, dedicated public servant to Senate District 7 and to the state’s public education system. Her commitment to our education system is admirable and the state will be well-served by her chairing the Board,” said Senator Paul Bettencourt.

Bahorich, a Republican, was elected to the state board in Nov. 2012 and took office on Jan. 1, 2013. She serves on the Committee on School Initiatives, which oversees agenda items related to charter schools, State Board for Educator Certification rules, and the appointment of school board members for those districts located on military bases. Bahorich previously chaired this committee. She also is a member of the board's Ad Hoc Committee on the Long-Range Plan for Public Education.

“I have known Donna since before she was the District Director for then-Senator (now Lieutenant Governor) Dan Patrick, and I know she will provide excellent leadership in her new role,” Bettencourt added.